

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 9, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[0055] 0509243 is an early maturity group II variety with resistance to Roundup™ herbicide ~~conferring tolerance to glyphosate herbicides, including ROUNDUP herbicide.~~ 0509243 has very high yield potential when compared to lines of similar maturity and has excellent agronomic characteristics including lodging resistance.

On page 10, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[0074] Physiological Responses: Roundup-Ready™ ROUNDUP Herbicide Resistant

On page 11, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[0077] The cultivar 0509243 is similar to 01136F. While similar to 01136F, there are numerous differences including: 0509243 has the gene for resistance to the Roundup™ herbicides ROUNDUP herbicide and 01136F does not contain this gene. Additionally, 0509243 has purple flowers while 01136F has white flowers.

On page 21, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[00126] A. Modified fatty acid metabolism, for example, by transforming a plant with an antisense gene of ~~stearoyl-ACP desaturase~~ stearyl-ACP desaturase to increase stearic acid content of the plant. See Knultzon et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:2625 (1992).

On page 30, please delete the first paragraph and replace as follows:

[00148] A deposit of the Stine Seed Farm, Inc. and Monsanto Technology LLC proprietary soybean cultivar designated 0509243 disclosed above and recited in the appended claims has been made with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Virginia 20110. The date of deposit was February 16, 2006. The deposit of 2,500 seeds was taken from the same deposit maintained by Stine Seed Farm, Inc. since prior to the filing date of this application. All

restrictions upon the deposit have been removed, and the deposit is intended to meet all of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.801-1.809. The ATCC accession number is PTA-7398. The deposit will be maintained in the depository for a period of 30 years, or 5 years after the last request, or for the effective life of the patent, whichever is longer, and will be replaced as necessary during that period.

On page 30, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[00148] [00149] Although the foregoing invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity and understanding. However, it, it will be obvious that certain changes and modifications such as single gene modifications and mutations, somoclonal variants, variant individuals selected from large populations of the plants of the instant variety and the like may be practiced within the scope of the invention as limited only by the scope of the appended claims.

On page 35, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

[00149] [00150] A novel soybean cultivar, designated 0509243, is disclosed. The invention relates to the seeds of soybean cultivar 0509243, to the plants of soybean 0509243 and to methods for producing a soybean plant produced by crossing the cultivar 0509243 with itself or another soybean variety. The invention further relates to hybrid soybean seeds and plants produced by crossing the cultivar 0509243 with another soybean cultivar.